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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/642,980	08/18/2000	Radhika R. Roy	3493.86280	8413
26652	7590	09/14/2004	EXAMINER	
AT&T CORP. P.O. BOX 4110 MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748			KADING, JOSHUA A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2661	

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/642,980

Applicant(s)

ROY, RADHIKA R.

Examiner

Joshua Kading

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8, 10-12 and 30-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8, 10-12 and 30-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5

Claims 2-4, 6-8, 10-12, and 30-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas (U.S. Patent 6,421,339 B1) in view of Christie, IV (U.S. Patent 6,657,992 B1).

10

Regarding claim 2, Thomas discloses "a method for providing H.323 alias address portability to an H.323 user in real-time H.323 multimedia communications wherein a geographical location is divided into home/visitor zones, and wherein each home/visitor zone has an associated home gatekeeper that maintains a centralized home/visitor location database for home and visitor location information wherein administrative zones of the geographical location [of] the centralized home/visitor location database [are] known and the H.323 user is registered with a home gatekeeper for the home zone of the H.323 user (figure 1, elements 63, 66, 68, 70 are home/visitor administrative domain databases in different zones), comprising the steps of:

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receiving from the H.323 user, a message with a called H.323 entity's alias address, to the home gatekeeper to originate a call to the called H.323 entity (col. 5, lines 34-37 where the ARQ message contains "Joe@networkA" which is the alias

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address; col. 5, lines 45-46 shows the ARQ message is sent to the home gatekeeper when a call is placed by the H.323 user);

translating, by the home gatekeeper, the alias address to a called routable alias address for the called H.323 entity (col. 5, lines 45-52 where the alias address is in the
5 ARQ message which is sent to the home gatekeeper to translate the alias address into other aliases and lists of gateways, or in other words routing information)...;

sending, by the home gatekeeper, the called routable alias address to the called H.323 entity (col. 5, lines 59-63 where by signaling the called entity the routable alias address must be sent to the called entity, otherwise the signaling information would not
10 be correctly routed to the called entity; col. 5, lines 23-29 shows the gatekeeper sending and routing the call)."

However, Thomas lacks what Christie, IV discloses, "...the called routable address received from a database external to a domain of the home gatekeeper and external to a domain of the H.323 entity (figure 1 shows a directory 116 that is clearly
15 not in any domain, further the directory is described in col. 4, lines 4-16 as it can be related to an H.323 system and its use with respect to user profile storage, including alias information)".

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the external database for the purpose of storing subscriber profiles
20 in a central location. The motivation for doing so would be so that the database can easily process information requests and determine the processing of calls between networks (Christie, IV, col. 4, lines 13-16).

Regarding claim 31, Thomas discloses "a method for providing H.323 alias address portability to an H.323 user in real-time H.323 multimedia communications wherein a geographical location is divided into home/visitor zones, and wherein each home/visitor zone has an associated home gatekeeper that maintains a centralized home/visitor location database for home and visitor location information wherein administrative zones of the geographical location [of] the centralized home/visitor location database [are] known and the H.323 user is registered with a home gatekeeper for the home zone of the H.323 user (figure 1, elements 63, 66, 68, 70 are home/visitor administrative domain databases in different zones), comprising the steps of:

receiving from the H.323 user, a message with a called H.323 entity's alias address, to the home gatekeeper to originate a call to the called H.323 entity (col. 5, lines 34-37 where the ARQ message contains "Joe@networkA" which is the alias address; col. 5, lines 45-46 shows the ARQ message is sent to the home gatekeeper when a call is placed by the H.323 user);

translating, by the home gatekeeper, the alias address to a called routable alias address for the called H.323 entity (col. 5, lines 45-52 where the alias address is in the ARQ message which is sent to the home gatekeeper to translate the alias address into other aliases and lists of gateways, or in other words routing information)...;

sending, by the home gatekeeper, the called routable alias address to the called H.323 entity (col. 5, lines 59-63 where by signaling the called entity the routable alias

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address must be sent to the called entity, otherwise the signaling information would not be correctly routed to the called entity; col. 5, lines 23-29 shows the gatekeeper sending and routing the call)."

However, Thomas lacks what Christie, IV discloses, the method is performed by
5 instructions on a computer readable medium executed on a computer (col. 6, lines 21-27), and "...the called routable address received from a database external to a domain of the home gatekeeper and external to a domain of the H.323 entity (figure 1 shows a directory 116 that is clearly not in any domain, further the directory is described in col. 4, lines 4-16 as it can be related to an H.323 system and its use with respect to user
10 profile storage, including alias information)".

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program and external database for the purpose of storing subscriber profiles in a central location. The motivation for doing so would be so that the database can easily process information requests and determine the
15 processing of calls between networks (Christie, IV, col. 4, lines 13-16).

In regard to claims 3 and 32, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is "each administrative domain has at least one zone (figure 1, elements 10 and 12 where
20 each of these domains has at least one zone defined by their respective gatekeepers and HLR/VLR databases)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the at least one zone in each administrative

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domain with the methods of claims 2 and 31 for the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

In regard to claims 4 and 33, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of
5 claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is “an
alias address assigned to an H.323 user is kept fixed as the user moves from one place
to another (col. 5, lines 5-7 where the roaming user is always referred to as “Joe” and
therefore his alias address is fixed since no matter where “Joe” is he is always referred
to as “Joe”).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time
10 of invention to include the fixed alias address with the methods of claims 2 and 31 for
the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

In regard to claims 6 and 35, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of
claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is “a
15 domain for an alias address assigned to the H.323 user in an administrative domain is a
donor domain (col. 3, line 67 and col. 4, lines 1-11 where “Joe” registers with an
administrative domain by way of gatekeeper 44 and is given his donor domain or
transient identity).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the
time of invention to include the donor domain with the methods of claims 2 and 31 for
20 the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

In regard to claims 7 and 36, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is "the alias address assigned to the H.323 user is moved from a donor domain to a new domain due to roaming of the H.323 user, the new domain is called a recipient domain (col. 3, lines 45-47 where VU is later identified by his alias address "Joe" as can be read in col. 3, line 67 and col. 4, lines 1-5; where "Joe" is visiting a recipient domain controlled by gatekeeper 44 and he must register with gatekeeper 44)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the recipient domain with the methods of claims 2 and 31 for the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

In regard to claims 8 and 37, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 7 and 36. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is "the alias address in the recipient domain is referred to as a ported number (col. 5, lines 59-63)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the ported number with the methods of claims 8 and 37 for the same reasons and motivation as in claims 8 and 37.

In regard to claims 10 and 38, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is "location information for the H.323 user is updated by querying, by the home gatekeeper, location databases during call establishment by the H.323 user (col. 3, lines

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60-64 where periodic basis can include during call establishment).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the location information being updated with the methods of claims 2 and 31 for the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

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In regard to claims 11 and 39, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is “the call is placed directly by the H.323 user (col. 5, lines 23-29 although this is saying that the call is placed by the gatekeeper and not the H.323 user, it mentions that this is
10 merely an alternative to having the H.323 user place the call directly).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the directly placed call with the methods of claims 2 and 31 for the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

15 In regard to claims 12 and 40, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is “the H.323 user moves to an administrative domain of the called H.323 entity and the call is placed via a home gatekeeper of the called H.323 entity (col. 6, lines 20-27 where this states that an H.323 user is able to roam and since the H.323 user is able to roam it can
20 place calls as in col. 5, lines 45-52 where the H.323 user communicates with the visited gatekeeper (or the H.323 called entities gatekeeper) which then proceeds with the call setup).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of

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invention to include the moving to an administrative domain and placing the call via a home gatekeeper with the methods of claims 2 and 31 for the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

5 In regard to claims 30 and 41, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 2 and 31. However, Christie, IV lacks what Thomas further discloses, that is “address portability includes, for selected information in the message, having a same source address, a same destination address and different intermediate addresses (col. 5, lines 45-52 where the destination address is the alias address which is constant no
10 matter what and the source address must be present in the message otherwise replies and further communication would not be possible because there would be no return address, the intermediate addresses consist of the list of gateways that must be passed through en route to the destination).” It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the address portability with the methods
15 of claims 2 and 31 for the same reasons and motivation as in claims 2 and 31.

Regarding claim 42, Thomas discloses “a method comprising a plurality of activities comprising:

receiving, at a wide area network-based intelligent service controller (figure 1,
20 elements 14 and 44 act as wide area network-based intelligent service controllers in that they each allow information to be transmitted to and from the wide area network), a request to originate a call to an H.323 entity, the request comprising an alias address

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associated with the H.323 entity (col. 5, lines 34-37 where the ARQ request message contains "Joe@networkA" which is the alias address; col. 5, lines 45-46 shows the ARQ message is sent to the home gatekeeper when a call is placed by the H.323 user)...

translating, at the wide area network-based intelligent service controller, the alias
5 address to an actual routable network address for the 11.323 entity utilizing the database (col. 5, lines 45-52 where the alias address is in the ARQ message which is sent to the home gatekeeper (the wide area network-based intelligent service controller) to translate the alias address into other aliases and lists of gateways, or in other words routing information); and

10 providing the actual routable network address (col. 5, lines 59-63 where by signaling the called entity the routable alias address must be provided to the called entity, otherwise the signaling information would not be correctly routed to the called entity; col. 5, lines 23-29 shows the gatekeeper sending and routing the call)."

However, Thomas lacks what Christie, IV discloses, "...the wide area network-
15 based intelligent service controller comprising a database external to a domain of a calling entity and external to a domain of the 11.323 entity (figure 1 shows a directory 116 that is clearly not in any domain, further the directory is described in col. 4, lines 4-16 as it can be related to an H.323 system and its use with respect to user profile storage, including alias information)".

20 It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the computer program and external database for the purpose of storing subscriber profiles in a central location. The motivation for doing so would be so

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that the database can easily process information requests and determine the processing of calls between networks (Christie, IV, col. 4, lines 13-16).

Claims 5 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

5 Thomas and Christie, IV as applied to claims 4 and 33 above, and further in view of Chau et al. (U.S. Patent 5,764,750).

In regard to claims 5 and 34, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 4 and 34. However, Thomas and Christie, IV lack "the alias address is an E.164 number." Chau et al. however, disclose "the alias address is an E.164 number (col. 2, 10 lines 11-15 show an H.323 environment; col. 23, lines 5-8 and 16-23 show the alias address is an E.164 number and although the alias address in this case is a phone number, as per applicant's specification the alias address could also be a user ID as in Thomas)." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to make the alias address an E.164 number for the purpose of allowing the 15 gatekeeper to map the address to a network routable address. The motivation being to allow communication over the network.

Claims 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas and Christie, IV as applied to claims 2 and 31 above, and further in view 20 of Tiedemann, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent 5,862,471).

Regarding claims 43 and 44, Thomas and Christie, IV disclose the methods of claims 2 and 31. However, Thomas and Christie, IV lack what Tiedemann discloses,

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“before sending, by the home gatekeeper, the called routable alias address to the called H.323 entity, the home gatekeeper notifies the H.323 user of an approximation of a cost of making the call (col. 2, lines 22-30; it should be noted that although Tiedemann lacks the notification of an approximation of cost in an H.323 system, Tiedemann does

5 disclose a mobile system in which an approximation of cost takes place, for instance the mobile system of Thomas).”

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the notification of an approximation of cost with the rest of the method for the purpose of allowing the user to decide whether or not to place a call
10 based on the cost of the call. The motivation being that this can save the user money in mobile phone charges.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2-4, 6-8, 10-12, and 30-41 have
15 been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP
20 § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua Kading whose telephone number is (571) 272-3070. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:30AM-5PM.

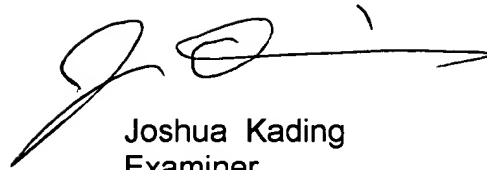
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas Olms can be reached on (571) 272-3079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Joshua Kading
Examiner
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August 25, 2004



KENNETH VANDERPUY
PRIMARY EXAMINER